

PUBLIC SAFETY PROJECTS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting on October 9, 2017

Members attending: Debby Brehm, Doug Emery, Liz Standish, John Miles, Tyler Mainquist, Dick Campbell, Mike Rogers, Tracy Sanford, Jon Camp, Tom Casady

Members absent: Deb Schorr

Others present: Molly Burton, Pat Borer, Ray Ryan & Julie Righter Dove, City of Lincoln; Nancy Hicks, Lincoln Journal Star; Abby Stenek, LIBA, Ron Trouba, IAFF Local 644.

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m. Chair Debby Brehm announced that the meeting falls under the Open Meetings Act. Introductions were made.

Minutes of the May 24, 2017 meeting were reviewed. Motion by Campbell, second by Mainquist, to accept the minutes. Approved by voice vote.

Tom Casady reported the current total for tax revenue is just under \$23 million. Based on current projections calculated from the first 22 months, Tom estimates that \$37.4 million will be collected by the end of the 36 months.

He also reported that current expenditures are about \$9.2 million. Details about all revenue expenditures is on the public safety page, <http://lincoln.ne.gov> (keyword, PUBLIC SAFETY).

Casady reported that construction costs have risen dramatically since the first take-off design of the joint facility. The original estimate was based on information from a local contractor in 2012, and was escalated for estimating purposes by 5% per year. The increase in construction costs has been considerably greater. What was originally estimated at \$150/sf is now projected to cost over \$300/sf. Numerous cuts have been made to keep the expenses in line with the revenue. Most of those cuts were made to the interior (reduced square footage), exterior materials, and the quantity of outdoor paving. The cuts have been designed to have the least impact on public safety operations, and the core of all the buildings is essentially unaltered. This work on balancing costs and revenues will continue, and the final guaranteed maximum price will be set in about the first week of February.

Hausmann Construction won the bid as construction manager at risk, out of five companies submitting bids. The bids were reviewed by a committee that included three members of the oversight committee, Liz Standish, Jon Camp, and Tom Casady. According to Hausmann, bidding some aspects of all four stations at once (such as the structural steel) will likely result in cost savings compared to bidding each separately. The site at 6601 Pine Lake Road will see the first signs of construction, hopefully before the first snowfall. The other projects will begin in the spring of 2018.

At the May 24th meeting, there was discussion regarding ending the sales tax collection early. Tom Casady advised in order to do that, he would have to feel extremely comfortable in revenues collected and right now, he doesn't feel there will be enough of a cushion to guarantee all expenditures would be covered by the revenue generated in 33 months, rather than 36. Changes to the sales tax rate can only be implemented at the beginning of a State fiscal year. October 1, 2018 is the date collection of the

quarter-cent sales tax must end, but the Nebraska Department of Revenue must be notified by June 3, 2018. This means a resolution would need to be ready to present to the City Council by early May.

Pat Borer reported that the location for the Station 12 build is 4405 S. 84th, which contained a ranch home. He reported that the house on the property was a rental, and the City was obligated by law to provide the tenants with some relocation assistance. The City looked into an online auction site to sell the building, with the understanding that the buyer would be responsible for moving the structure from the property. The online auction was held and the highest bid was \$43. Although it was a very small sale, it actually saved the City thousands of dollars in demolition costs. Bids were also previously solicited for the house at 6601 Pine Lake Road, but there were no bidders on that building. It is his understanding that the successful bidder on 4405 S. 84th is moving the house to Shubert, NE.

Ray Ryan gave an update on the radio system. Work will be completed on required repairs to the Arbor Road and Jensen Park towers. The design phase of this work is underway, which will consist of beefing up footings and some additional bracing. Radio shop technicians have been attending training from Motorola in Chicago on various aspects of the new system.

Julie Righter Dove provided an update on the 911 Center renovation. She reported that the construction is done, and installation of equipment for the server room has begun. Consoles (desks) will arrive the beginning of next week and all 18 positions should be installed by the end of next week. One of the biggest improvements during the renovation has been an upgrade in the HVAC system, which was sorely needed to keep up with the heat produced by all the computers and over 100 monitors that will be running 24/7.

Tom Casady speculated that most all of the law enforcement talk groups will be encrypted. He cited a very recent bank robbery in which the suspect was monitoring LPD dispatch from his smart phone via a scanner app. Media will be provided with receive-only radios. It's unknown at this time if an Internet feed of the audio from the law enforcement primary dispatch talk groups will be published for the public. If that happens, it will most likely be with a 10-minute delay. LPD recognizes the value of transparency by public safety to the public, but stressed public safety has to be the highest priority. There is a need for unencrypted talk groups, too, for the benefit of other law enforcement agencies who will be using the system. There are no plans to encrypt Fire & Rescue talk groups.

A question was posed regarding the possibility of reaching capacity with the new system by adding additional organizations that hadn't been identified when the system was purchased. Casady indicated the system has ample room to accommodate additional users, and at least a couple of potential users have made inquiries. Adding additional organizations to the system will require agreement between the City and the State, since the system shares it's "brain"—the core—and we would both need to be satisfied that such additions were in the best interest of all.

It's anticipated that agencies will begin using the new system in the spring of 2018, along with the old system during the transition, but a final step will not take place until the final acceptance testing has been completed, which will not occur until crops are at full foliage later in the summer. Ray Ryan explained that foliage affects radio frequency waves, so coverage tests must account for the corn. The overall timeline for the fire and police stations will vary, in order to not overburden the various trades. Some work will begin this fall at 66th & Pine Lake, with a likely groundbreaking ceremony before Thanksgiving. Construction will begin in earnest at all sites in March of 2018.

Casady indicated he'd like to hold the next meeting in mid-February, and possibly at the County/City building, in order to incorporate a tour of the new 911 Center, which should already be in operation by that time.

Motion by Mainquist, second by Campbell, to adjourn. Motion approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 5:03 p.m.